

Fern.

Description.] **O**F this there are two kinds principally to be treated of, viz. The Male and Female. The Female groweth higher than the Male, but the Leaves thereof are lesser, and more divided, or dented, and of as strong a smell as the Male; the Virtues of them are both alike, and therefore I shall not trouble you with any Description or Distinction of them.

Place.] They grow both on Heaths, and in shady Places near the Hedge-sides in all Counties of this Land.

Time.] They Flower and give their Seed at Midsummer.

The Female Fern is that Plant which is in *Suffex* called *Brakes*, the Seed of which some Authörs hold to be so rare: Such a thing there is I know, and may be easily had upon *Midsummer Eve*, and for ought I know, two or three Days after it, if not more.

Government and Virtues.] It is under the Dominion of *Mercury*, both Male and Female. The Roots of both those sorts of *Ferns*, being bruised and boiled in Mead, or Honeyed Water, and drunk, killeth both the broad and long Worms in the Body, and abateth the Swelling and Hardness of the Spleen. The green Leaves eaten, Purge the Belly and Cholerick and Waterish Humours, but it troubles the Stomach. They are dangerous for Women with Child to meddle with, by reason they cause Abortments. The Roots bruised and boiled in Oyl, or Hogs-grease, make a very profitable Ointment to heal Wounds, or Pricks gotten into the Flesh. The Powder of them used in foul Ulcers, drieth up their malignant moisture, and causeth their speedier healing. Fern being burned, the smoak thereof driveth away Serpents, Gnats, and other noisom Creatures, which in Fenny Countries do, in the Night time, trouble and molest People lying in their Beds with their Faces uncovered; it causeth Barrenness.

*Worms, Spleen, Chol-
ler, Flegm, Stomach,
Wounds, Ulcers, Ser-
pents, Gnats, Veno-
mous Beasts.*

Osmond Royal, or Water-Fern.

Descript.] **T**his shooteth forth in the Spring time (for in the Winter the Leaves perish) divers rough hard Stalks, half round, and hollowish, or flat on the other side, two Foot high, having divers Branches of winged yellowish green Leaves on all sides, set one against another, longer, narrower, and not nicked on the Edges as the former. From the top of some of these Stalks grow forth a long bush of small, and more yellowish green, scaly Aglets, as it were, set in the same manner on the Stalks as the Leaves are, which are accounted the Flowers and Seeds. The Root is rough, thick and scabby, with a white pith in the middle, which is called the Heart thereof.

Place.] It groweth on Moors, Bogs and watry places in many parts of this Land.

Time.] It is green all the Summer, and the Root only abideth in Winter.

Government and Vertues.] Saturn ownsthe Plant. This hath all the Vertues mention'd in the former Ferns, and is much more effectual than they, both for inward and outward Grievs, and is accounted singular good in Wounds, Bruises, or the like. The decoction to be drunk or boiled into an Ointment or Oyl, as a Balsam or Balm, and so it is singular good against Bruises, and Bones broken, or out of Joint, and giveth

much ease to the Cholick and Splenetick Diseases; as also for Ruptures or Burstings. The Decoction of the Root in White wine, provokes Urine exceedingly, and cleanseth the Bladder and passages of Urine.

Featherfew.

Descript.] **C**ommon Featherfew hath many large, fresh, green Leaves, very much torn or cut on the Edges. The Stalks are hard and round, set with many such like Leaves, but somewhat smaller, and at the tops stand many single Flowers, upon small Foot-stalks, consisting of many small white Leaves, standing round about a yellow Thrum in the middle. The Root is some-

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somewhat hard and short, with many strong Fibres about it. The scent of the whole Plant is very strong and stuffing, and the Taste is very bitter.

Place.] This grows wild in some places of the Land, but is for the most part nourished in Gardens.

Time.] It flowereth in the Months of *June* and *July*.

Government and Vertues.] *Venus* commands the Herb, and hath commended it to succour her Sisters, (*Women*) and to be a general strengthner of their Wombs, and remedies such Infirmities as a careless Midwife hath there caused; if they will but be pleased to make use of her Herb boiled in White-wine, and drink the Decoction, it cleanseth the Womb, expelleth the After-birth, doth the Woman all the good she can desire of an Herb. And if any grumble because they cannot get the Herb in Winter, tell them if they please, they may make a Syrup of it in Summer; it is chiefly used for the

Disease of the Mother, whether it be the strangling or rising of the Mother, or hardness, or Inflammations of the same, applied outwardly thereunto. Or a Decoction of the Flowers in Wine, with a little Nutmeg or Mace put therein, and drunk often in a Day, is an approved Remedy to bring down Womens Courses speedily, and helpeth to expel the Dead-birth, and After-birth. For a Woman to sit over the hot fumes of the decoction of the Herb made in Water or Wine, is effectual for the same; and in some Cases, to apply the boiled Herb warm to the Privy-parts. The Decoction thereof made with some Sugar or Honey put thereto, is used by many with good success to help the Cough and stuffing of the Chest, by Colds, as also to cleanse the Reins and Bladder, and helps to expel the Stone in them. The Powder of the Herb taken in Wine, with some Oxymel, purgeth both Cholera and Flegm, and is available for those that are short Winded, and are troubled with Melancholy and Heaviness or sadness of Spirits. It is very effectual for all Pains in the Head coming of a cold Cause, the Herb being bruised and applied to the Crown of the Head: As also for the Vertigo, that is, a turning or swimming of the Head. The Decoction thereof drunk
warm

*Mother, Womb, Terms
provokes, Dead birth,
After-birth, Cough,
Reins, Bladder, Cho-
ler, Flegm, Melan-
choly, Sadness, Head-
ach, Ague, Deformity
of the Skin, Wind-
Cholick, Opium.*

warm, and the Herb bruised with a few Corns of Bay-salt, and applied to the wrists before the coming of the Ague-fits, doth take them away. The distilled water taketh away Freckles, and other Spots and Deformities in the Face. The Herb bruised and heated on a Tile, with some Wine to moisten it, or fried with a little Wine and Oyl in a Frying-pan, and applied warm outwardly to the places, helpeth the Wind and Cholick in the lower part of the Belly. It is an especial Remedy against Opium taken too liberally.

Fennel.

EVery Garden affordeth this so plentifully, that it needs no Description.

Government and Vertues.] One good old fashion is not yet left off, viz. To boil Fennel with Fish; for it consumes that flegmetick Humour which Fish most plentifully afford and annoy the Body by; therefore it is a most fit Herb for that purpose, tho' few that use it, know why or wherefore they do it; I suppose the reason of its benefit this way, is, because it is an Herb of Mercury, and under Virgo, and therefore bears Antipathy to Pisces. Fennel is good to break Wind, to provoke Urine, and ease the pains of the Stone, and help to break it. The Leaves or encreaseth Milk, and are good for Nurseries, to encrease their Seeds boiled in Barley-Water and drunk, mend Milk, Hiccough, loathing of Milk, and make it more wholesome for Meat, Venemous the Child. The Leaves, or rather the Beasts, Poyson, Mush- Seeds, boiled in Water, stayeth the Hiccough, and taketh away the loathings roons, Obstructions which oftentimes happen to the Stomachs in the Liver, Spleen of Sick and Feverish Persons, and allayeth and Gall, Yellow the heat thereof. The Seed boiled Jaundice, Gout, in Wine, and drunk, is good for Cramp, wheezing, those that are bitten with Serpents, or Terms provokes have eaten poysonous Herbs or Mush- Cleanse, Open, Fat- roons. The Seed and the Roots much ness, Eyes. more help to open Obstructions of the

Liver, Spleen and Gall, and thereby help the painful and windy Swellings of the Spleen, and the Yellow Jaundice; as also the Gout and Cramps. The Seed is of good use in Medicines to help shortness of Breath,

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Breath and Wheezing by stopping of the Lungs. It helpeth also to bring down the Courses, and to cleanse the parts after Delivery. The Roots are of most use in Physick-drinks and Broths that are taken to cleanse the Blood, to open Obstructions of the Liver, to provoke Urine, and amend the ill colour in the Face after sickness, and to cause a good habit through the Body. Both Leaves, Seeds and Roots thereof are much used in Drink or Broth, to make People more spare and lean that are too fat. The distilled Water of the whole Herb or the condensate Juice dissolved, but especially the Natural Juice that in hot Countries issueth out hereof of its own accord, dropped into the Eyes, cleanseth them from Mists and Films that hinder the Sight. The sweet Fennel is much weaker in Physical Uses than the common Fennel. The wild Fennel is stronger and hotter than the tame, and therefore most powerful against the Stone, but not so effectual to encrease Milk, because of its driness.

Sow-Fennel, or Hog's-*enne.*

Besides the common Name in *English*, Hog's-Fennel, and the *Latin* Name *Peucedanum*, it is called Hoar-strange, and Hoar-strong, Sulphur-wort, and Brimstone-wort.

Descript.] The common Sow-Fennel hath divers branched Stalks of thick and somewhat long Leaves, three for the most part joined together at a place, among which ariseth a crested streight Stalk, less than Fennel, with some Joints thereon, and Leaves growing thereat, and towards the tops some Branches issuing from thence; likewise on the tops of the Stalk, and Branches stand divers tufts of yellow Flowers, where after grows somewhat flat thin and yellowish Seed, bigger than Fennel seed. The Roots grow great and deep, with many other Parts and Fibres about them, of a strong scent like hot Brimstone, and yield forth a yellowish Milk, or clammy Juice, almost like a Gum.

Place.] It flowereth plentifully in the salt low Marshes, near *Feverham* in *Kent*.

Time.] It flowereth plentifully in *July* and *August*.

Government and Vertues.] This is also an Herb of *Mercury*. The Juice of Sow-Fennel, (saith *Dioscorides* and *Galen*) used with *Vinegar* and *Rose-water*, or the Juice with a little *Euphorbium* put to the Nose, helpeth those that are

Lethargy, Frenzy, Vertigo, Falling-sickness, Head-ach Palsie, Sciatica, Cramp, Sinews, Cough, shortness of Breath, Wind, Spleen, Child-Birth, Reins, Bladder, Womb, Ears, hollow Teeth, Ulcers, Broken Bones, Thorns, Wounds.

troubled with the Lethargy, the Frenzy, the turning or giddiness of the Head, the Falling-sickness, long and inveterate Head-ach, the Palsy, Sciatica and the Cramp, and generally all the Diseases of the Sinews, used with Oyl and Vinegar. The Juice dissolved in Wine, or put into an Egg, is good for the Cough, or shortness of Breath, and for those that are troubled with Wind in the Body. It purgeth the Belly gently, expelleth the hardness of the Spleen, giveth ease to Women that have fore Travail in Child-Birth, and easeth the pains of the Reins and Bladder, and also the Womb. A little of the Juice dissolved in Wine, and dropped into the Ears, easeth much of the Pains in them, and put into a hollow Tooth, easeth the pains thereof. The Root is less effectual in all the aforesaid Diseases; yet the Powder of the Root cleanseth foul Ulcers, being put into them, and taketh out Splinters of broken Bones, or other things in the Flesh, and healeth them up perfectly. As also it drieth up old and inveterate running Sores, and is of admirable Virtue in all green Wounds.

Figwort, or Throat-wort.

Descript.] Common great Figwort, sendeth divers great strong, hard, square brown Stalks, three or four foot high, whereon grow large, dard, and dark green Leaves, two at a Joint, which are harder and larger than Nettle Leaves, but not stinging; at the tops of the Stalks stand many purple Flowers, set in Husks, which are sometimes gaping and open, somewhat like those of Water-Betony; after which come hard round Heads, with a small point in the middle, wherein lie small brownish Seed. The Root is great, white and thick, with many Branches at it, growing aslope under the upper crust of the Ground which abideth many Years, but keepeth not his green Leaves in Winter.

Place.] It groweth frequently in moist and shadowy Woods, and in the lower parts of the Fields and Meadows.

Time.]

Time.] It flowereth about *July*, and the Seed will be ripe about a Month after the Flowers are fallen.

Government and Vertues.] Some Latin Authors call it *Cervicaria*, because 'tis appropriated to the Neck; and we *Throat-wort*, because it is appropriated to the Throat, *Venus* owns the Herb, and the Celestial *Bull* will not deny it; therefore a better Remedy cannot be for the King's Evil, because the *Moon* that rules the Disease is exalted there, nor for any Disease in the Neck; the rest of the Diseases specified, you may (if you look) see a very good reason for their cure by this Herb. The Decoction of the Herb taken inwardly, and the bruised Herb applied outwardly, dissolveth clotted and congealed Blood within the Body, coming by any Wound, Bruise, or Fall; and is no less effectual for the King's Evil, or any other Knobs, Kernels, Bunches or Wens growing in the Flesh wheresoever; and for the *Hæmorrhoids*, or Piles; for other Knobs or Kernels, which sometimes grow about the Fundament. An Ointment made hereof may be used at all times when the fresh Herb is not to be had. The distilled water of the whole Plant, Roots and all is used for the same purposes, and drieth up the superfluous, virulent moisture of hollow and corroding Ulcers; it taketh away all redness, Spots and Freckle in the Face, as also the *Surf*, or any foul Deformity therein and the Leprosie likewise.

Congealed Blood by Wound, bruise, or Fall King's-Evil, Wens, Hemorrhoids, Fundament, Ulcers, Scurf, Spots, Freckles, Deformity, Leprosy.

Filipendula, or Dropwort.

Descript.] **T**His sendeth forth many Leaves, some bigger, some lesser, set on each side of a middle Rib, and each of them dented about the Edges, somewhat resembling wild Tansie, or rather *Agrimony*, but harder in handling; among which rise up one or more Stalks, two or three foot high, with the Leaves growing thereon, and sometimes also divided into other Branches spreading at the top into many white sweet smelling Flowers, consisting of five Leaves a piece, with some Threads in the middle of them standing together, in a pith or umble, each upon a small Foot stalk, which after they have been upon and blown a good while, do fall away, and in their places appear small, round, chaffie Heads like Buttons, wherein are the chaffie Seeds set and

Placed. The Root consists of many small, black, tuberous pieces fastened together by many small, long, blackish strings, which run from one to another.

Place.] It groweth in many places of this Land, in the Corners of dry Fields and Meadows, and their Hedge-sides.

Time.] They flower in June and July, and their Seed is ripe in August.

Government and Vertues.] It is under the Dominion of Venus, and is very effectual to open the passages of the Urine,

Dysury, Strangury,
Reins, Bladder,
Stone, Gravel, Wind,
Lungs, Wheezing,
Hoarseness, Cough,
Flegm.

and helpeth the Strangury, and all other pains of the Bladder and Reins, helpeth mightily to expel the Stone in the Kidneys or Bladder, and the Gravel also; and these are done by taking the Roots in Powder or a Decoction of them in White-wine, whereunto a little Honey

is added. The same helpeth also to expel the After-birth. The Roots made into Powder, and mixed with Honey in the form of an Electuary, doth much help them whose Stomachs are swollen, dissolving and breaking the Wind which was the Cause thereof, and is also very effectual for all the Diseases of the Lungs, as shortness of Breath, Wheezing, Hoarseness of the Throat, and the Cough, and to expectorate tough Flegm, or any other parts thereabout. It is called *Dropwort*, because it helps such as Pifs by drops.

The Fig-Tree,

FOR to give a Description of a Tree so well known to every Body that keeps it in their Gardens, were needless. They prosper very well in our *English* Gardens; yet are fitter for Medicine than for any other profit which is gotten by the Fruit of them.

Government and Vertues.] The Tree is under the Dominion of Jupiter. The Milk that issueth out from the Leaves or Branches when they are broken off, being dropped upon

Warts, taketh them away. The Decoction of the Leaves of a Fig-tree is excellent good to wash sore Heads withal; neither is there scarcely a better Remedy for the Leprosie than it is. It

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clears the Face also of Morpew, and the Body of white Scurf, moist Scabs, and running Sores. If it be dropped into old fretting Ulcers, it cleanseth out the moisture, and bringeth up the Flesh; because you cannot have the Leaves green all the year, you may make an Ointment of them whilst you may. A Decoction of the Leaves being drunk inwardly, or rather a Syrup made of them, dissolves congealed Blood caused by bruises or Falls, and helps the Bloody-flux. The Ashes of the Wood made into an Ointment with Hogs-grease, help Kibes and Chilblains. The Juice being put into an hollow Tooth, easeth pain, as also pain and noise in the Ears, being dropped into them, and Deafness. An Ointment made of the Juice and Hogs-grease, is as excellent a Remedy for the biting of mad Dogs, or other Venemous Beasts, as most is. A Syrup made of the Leaves or green Fruit, is excellent good for Coughs, Hoarseness, or shortness of Breath, and all Diseases of the Breast and Lungs; it is also excellent good for the Dropie, and Falling-sickness. They say that the Fig-tree as well as the Bay tree is never hurt by Lightning; as also that a Bull, if he be never so mad, if you tie him to a Fig-Tree, will quickly become tame and gentle. As for such Figs as come from beyond Sea, I have little to say to them, because I write not of Exoticks; yet some Authors say the Eating of them makes People Loufie.

The yellow Water-Flag, or Flower-de-luce.

Descript.] **T**His groweth like the Flower-de-luces, but it hath much longer and narrower sad green Leaves joined together in that Fashion; the Stalk also growing oftentimes as high, bearing small yellow Flowers shaped like the Flower-de-luce with three falling Leaves, and other three arched that cover their bottoms; but instead of the three upright Leaves as the Flower-de-luce hath, this hath only three short Pieces, standing in their places, after which succeed thick and long three-square heads, containing in each part, somewhat big and flat seed, like to those of the Flower-de-luces. The Root is long and slender, of a pale brownish Colour on the outside, and of a Horse-flesh

flesh Colour on the inside, with many hard Fibres thereat, and very harsh in Taste.

Place.] It usually grows in Watry Ditches, Ponds, Lakes, and Moor Sides, which are always overflown with Water.

Time.] It flowereth in July, and the Seed is ripe in August.

Government and Virtues.] It's under the Dominion of the Moon. The Root of this Water flag is Binds, Cools, Dries very astringent, cooling, and drying and Flux, Bloody Flux, thereby helpeth all Lasks, and Fluxes, Bleeding, Terms stops, whether of Blood or Humours, as Bleeding at Mouth, Nose or other parts, Bloody Eyes, Spots, Blemishes, Inflammations, fluxes, and the immoderate Flux of Womens Breasts, Cankers, mens Courfes. The distilled Water of Ulcers, Noli me tangere. the whole Herb, Flowers and Roots, is a Sovereign good Remedy for watring

Eyes, both to be dropped into them, and to have Cloths or Spunges wetted therein, and applied to the Forehead: It also helpeth the spots or blemishes that happen in or about the Eyes, or in any other parts the said Water somented on Swellings and hot Inflammations of Womens fore Breasts, upon Cankers also, and those spreading Ulcers called *Noli me tangere*, doth much good: It helpeth also foul Ulcers in the privy parts of Man or Woman, or elsewhere. An Ointment made of Flowers, is better for those external Applications.

Flax-weed, or Toad-Flax,

Descript.] OUR common Flax-weed hath divers Stalks full fraught with long and narrow Ash coloured Leaves, and from the middle of them almost upward, stored with a number of pale yellow Flowers, of a strong unpleasant scent, with deeper yellow Mouths, and blackish flat Seed in round heads. The Root is somewhat woody and white, especially the main down right one, with many Fibres, abiding many Years, shooting forth Roots every way round about, and new Branches every Year.

Place] This groweth throughout this Land, both by the way sides in Meadows, as also by Hedge sides, and upon the sides of Banks and Borders of Fields.

Time.]

Time.] It flowereth in Summer, and the Seed is ripe usually before the end of August.

Government and Virtues.] Mars owns the Herb: In *Suffex* we call it *Gallwort*, and lay it in our Chickens Water to cure them of the Gall, I think; I am sure it relieves them when they are drooping. This is frequently used to provoke Urine being stopped, and to spend the abundance of those watry Humours by Urine, which cause the Dropsie. The Decoction of the Herb, both Leaves and Flowers, in Wine taken and drunk, doth somewhat move the B-ly downwards, openeth Obstructions of the Liver, and helpeth the Yellow Jaundice, expelleth Poyson, provoketh Womens Courses, driverth forth the dead Child, and After-birth. The distilled Water of the Herb and Flowers, is effectual for all the same purposes, especially being drunk with a drachm of the Powder of the Seeds, or Bark of the Root of *Wallwort*, and a little Cinnamon, for certain Days together is held a singular Remedy for the Dropsie. The Juice of the Herb, or the distilled Water, dropped into the Eyes, is a certain Remedy for all heat, Inflammations, and redness in them. The Juice or Water put into foul Ulcers, whether they be Cancerous or Fistulous, with Tents rouled therein, or parts washed and injected therewith, cleanseth them thoroughly from the bottom and healeth them up safely. The same Juice or Water also cleanseth the Skin wonderfully of all sorts of Deformity thereof, as Leprosie, Morpew, Scurf, Wheals, Pimples, or any other spots or Marks in the Skin, applied of it self, or used with some Powder, of Lupines.

Dysury, Dropsie, Obstructions of the Liver, Yellow Jaundice, dead Child, and After-birth, Inflammations, Eyes, Ulcers, Cankers, Fistulaes, Leprosie, Scab, Pimples, Freckles.

Flea-wort.

Descript.] Ordinary Flea-wort riseth up with a Stalk two Foot high or more, full of Joints and Branches on every side upto the Top, and at every Joint two small, long, and narrow whitish green Leaves, somewhat hairy: At the Tops of every Branch stand divers small short scaly or chaffy Heads, out of which come forth small whitish yellow Threads, like to those of the *Plantane* herbs, which are the Bloomings of Flowers. The seed inclosed

in those Heads, is small and shining while it is fresh, very like unto Fleas both for Colour and bigness, but turning black when it groweth old. The Root is not long, but white, hard, and woody, perishing every Year, and rising again of its own Seed for divers Years if it be suffered to shed: The whole Plant is somewhat whitish and hairy, smelling somewhat like Rosin.

There is another Sort hereof, differing not from the former in the Manner of growing, but only that this Stalk and Branches being somewhat greater, do a little more bow down to the Ground: The Leaves are somewhat greater, the Heads somewhat lesser, the Seed alike; and the Root and Leaves abide all Winter, and perish not as the former.

Place.] The first groweth only in Gardens, the second plentifully in Fields that are near the Sea.

Time.] They flower in July or thereabouts.

Government and Vertues.] The Herb is cold, dry, and Saturnine. I suppose it obtained the name Fleawort, because

Flux, Corrosion, Cholerick Humours, Agues, Fevers, Inflammation, Thirst, Hoarseness, Salt Humours, Pleurisie, Hemorrhoids Head ach, Megrim, Imposthumes Blains, Wheals, Pusles Purples, Gout, Joints, Sciatica, Nipples, sore Breasts, Ears, Worms, Ulcers.

the Seeds are so like Fleas. The Seed fried, and so taken, stayeth the Flux or Lask of the Belly, and the Corrosions that come by reason of hot, cholerick or sharp and malignant Humours, or by too much purging of any violent Medicine, as Scammony, or the like. The Mucilage of the Seed made with Rose-water, and a little Sugar-candy put thereto, is very good in all hot Agues and Burning Fevers, and other Inflammations, to cool the Thirst, and lenify the dryness and roughness of the Tongue and Throat. It helpeth also Hoarseness of the Voice, and Dis-

eases of the Breast and Lungs, caused by heat or sharp salt Humours, and the Plurisy also. The Mucilage of the Seed made in Plantane-water, whereunto the yolk of an Egg or two, and a little Populeon are put, is a most safe and sure Remedy to ease the sharpness, pricking and pains of the Hemorrhoids or Piles, if it be laid on a Cloth, and bound thereto. It helpeth also all Inflammations in any part of the Body, and the pains that come thereby, as the Head-ach and Megrim, and all hot Imposthumes or Swellings, or breaking

breaking out of the Skin, as Blains, Wheals, Pushes, Purples and the like; as also the Joints of those that are out of Joint the pains of the Gout and Sciatica, the bursting of young Children, and the swelling of the Navel, applied with Oyl of Roses and Vinegar. It is also very good to heal the Nipples and fore Breasts of Women, being often applied thereunto. The Juice of the Herb with a little Honey put into the Ears, helpeth the running of them, and the Worms breeding in them: The same also mixed with Hogs-grease, and applied to corrupt and filthy Ulcers and Sores, cleanseth and healeth them.

Flix-weed.

Descript.] It riseth up with a round upright hard Stalk, four or five Foot high, spread into sundry Branches, whereon grow many grayish green Leaves very finely cut and severed into a number of short and almost round parts. The Flowers are very small and yellow, growing spike fashion, after which come very small long Pods, with very small yellowish Seed in them. The Root is long and woody, perishing every Year.

There is another Sort, differing in nothing, save only it hath somewhat broader Leaves; they have a strong evil Savour, being smelt unto, and are of a drying Taste.

Place.] They grow wild in the Fields by Hedge-sides, and High-ways, and among Rubbish and other places.

Time.] They flower and seed quickly after, namely in June and July,

Government and Vertues.] This Herb is Saturnine also. Both the Herb and Seed of Flix-weed, is of excellent use to stay the Flux or Lask of the Belly, being drunken in Water wherein Gads of Steel heated have been often quenched; and is no less effectual for the said Purpose than Plantane or Comfry, and to restrain any other Flux of Blood in Man or Woman, as also to consolidate Bones broken or out of Joint. The Juice thereof drunk in Wine, or the Decoction of the Herb drunk, doth kill the Worms in the Stomach or Belly, or the Worms that grow in putrid and filthy Ulcers; and made into a Salve, doth quickly heal

Flux, Bleeding,
Bloody Flux, Terms
stopt, broken Bones,
Members disjointed,
Worms, Sores, Ulcers.

all old Sores, how foul or malignant soever they be. The distilled Water of the Herb worketh the same effects, although somewhat weaker, yet it is a fair Medicine, and more acceptable to be taken.

It is called *Fluxweed*, because it cures the Flux, and for its uniting broken Bones, &c. *Paracelsus* extols it to the Skies. It is fitting Syrups, Ointment and Plaisters of it were kept in your Houses.

Flower-de-luce.

IT is so well known, being nursed up in most Gardens, that I shall not need to spend time in writing a Description thereof.

Time.] The flaggy kinds thereof have the most Physical uses; the Dwarf kinds thereof flower in *April*, the greater sorts in *May*.

Government and Virtues.] The Herb is *Lunar*. The Juice or Decoction of the green Roots of the flaggy kind of *Flower-de-luce*, with a little Honey drunk, doth purge and cleanse the

Stomach, Flegm, Choler, Jaundice, Dropsie, Belly, Sides, Agues, Liver, Spleen, Stone, Convulsions, Cramp, venemous Beasts, Dysury, Cholick, Terms provokes, Cough, Sneezing, Hemorrhoids, Tooth-ach, Joints, Sinews, Gout, Sciatica, Womb, Rheums, Breast, Wounds, Ulcers, Fistulaes, Cankers.

Stomach of gross and tough Flegm and Choler therein; it helpeth the Jaundice and the Dropsie, by evacuating those Humours both upwards and downwards; and because it somewhat hurts the Stomach, is not to be taken without Honey and Spiknard. The same being drunk, doth ease the Pains and Torments of the Belly and Sides, the shaking of Agues, the diseases of the Liver and Spleen, the Worms, of the Belly, the Stone in the Reins, Convulsions and Cramps that come of cold Humours; it also helps those whose Seed passeth from them unawares; It is a Remedy against the bitings and stingings of Venemous Creatures, being boiled in Water and Vi-

negar and drunk: Being boiled in Water and drunk it, provoketh Urine, helpeth the Cholick, bringeth down Womens Courses; and made up into a Pessary with Honey, and put up into the Body, draweth forth the dead Child. It is much commended against the Cough, to expectorate

rough

tough Flegm; it much easeth pains in the Head, and procureth sleep; being put into the Nostrils, it procureth sneezing, and thereby purgeth the Head of Flegm: The Juice of the Root applied to the *Piles* or *Hemorrhoids* giveth much ease. The Decoction of the Roots gargled in the Mouth, easeth the Tooth-ach, and helpeth a stinking Breath. Oyl called *Olium Irinum*, if it be rightly made of the great broad flag *Flower-de-luce*, (and not of the great bulbous blue *Flower-de-luces*, as is used by some Apothecaries) and Roots of the same of the flaggy kinds, is very effectual to warm and comfort all cold Joints and Sinews, as also the Gout and Sciatica, and mollifieth, dissolveth and consumeth Tumours and Swellings in any part of the Body, as also of the Matrix; it helpeth the Cramp, or Convulsions of the Sinews; The Head and Temples anointed therewith, helpeth the Catarh or thin Rheum distilling from thence; and used upon the Breast or Stomach, helpeth to extenuate the cold tough Flegm, it helpeth also the pains and noise in the Ears, and the stench of the Nostrils. The Root it self, either green or in Powder, helpeth to cleanse, heal, and incarnate Wounds, and to cover the naked Bones with Flesh again, that Ulcers have made bare; and is also very good to cleanse and heal up Fistulaes and Cankers that are hard to be cured.

Fluellin, or Lluellin.

Descript.] IT shooteth forth many long Branches, partly lying upon the Ground, and partly standing upright, set with almost red Leaves, yet a little pointed, and sometimes more long than round, without order thereon, somewhat hoary, and of an evil greenish white Colour; at the Joints all along the Stalks, and with the Leaves come forth small Flowers, one at a place, upon a very small short Foot-stalk, gaping somewhat liky *Sapdragons*, or rather like *Toad flax*, with the upper jaw of a yellow Colour, and the lower of a purplish, with a small Heel or Spur behind; after which come forth small round Heads, containing small black Seed. The Root is small and thready, dying every year, and raiseth it self again of its own sowing.

There is another sort of Lluellin which hath longer Branches wholly trailing upon the Ground two or three Foot long, and somewhat more thin, set with Leaves thereon, upon small Foot-stalks.

The

The English Physician Enlarged.

The Leaves are a little larger, and somewhat round, and cornered sometimes in some places on the Edges; but the lower part of them being the broadest, hath on each side a small point, making it seem as if they were Ears; sometimes hairy, but not hoary, and of a better green Colour than the former: The Flowers come forth like the former, but the Colours therein are more white than yellow, and the Purple not so fair: It is a large Flower, and so are the Seed and Seed-vessels. The Root like the other, and perisheth every Year.

Place.] They grow in divers Corn-fields, and in Borders about them, and in other fertil Grounds, about Southfleet in Kent abundantly; at Buchwirte, Hamerton, and Richmanworth in Huntingtongshire, and in divers other Places.

Time.] They are in Flower about June and July, and the whole Plant is dry and withered before August be done:

Government and Vertues.] It is a Lunar Herb. The Leaves bruised and applied with Barley-meal to watering Eyes that are hot and inflam'd by Defluctions from the Head, do very much help them, as also the Fluxes of Blood or Humours, as the Lask, bloody Flux, Womens Courses; and stayeth all Manner of Bleeding at Nose, Mouth, or any other Place,

Eyes, Flux, Bloody-Flux, Terms stoppt, Wounds, Ulcers, Cankers.

or that cometh by any Bruise or Hurt, or bursting a Vein; wonderfully helpeth all those inward Parts that need consolidating or strengthening; and is no less effectual both to heal and close green Wounds, than to cleanse or heal all foul or old Ulcers, fretting or spreading Cankers, or the like.

Bees are industrious, and go abroad to gather Honey from each Plant and Flower; but Drones lie at home, and eat up what the Bees have taken Pains for: Just so do the College of Physicians lie at home, and domineer and suck out the Sweetness of other Mens Labours and Studies, themselves being as ignorant in the Knowledge of Herbs as a Child of four Years old, as I can make appear to any rational Man by their last Dispensatory. Now then to hide their Ignorance, there is no readier Way in the World, than to hide Knowledge from their Countrymen, that so no body might be able so much as to smell out their Ignorance. When Simples were more in Use, Men's Bodies were better in Health by

by far than now they are, or shall be, if the College can help it. The Truth is, this Herb is of a fine cooling, drying Quality, and an Ointment or Plaister of it might do a Man a Courtesie, that hath any hot virulent Sores: 'Tis admirable for the Ulcers of the French Pox; if taken inwardly, may cure the Disease. It was first called Female Speedwel, but a Shentleman of Wales, whose Nose was almost eaten off with the Pox, and so near the Matter, that the Doctors commanded it to be cut off, being cured only by the Use of this Herb; and to Honour the Herb for saving her Nose whole, gave it one of her Country Names *Lluellin*.

Fox-Glove.

Descript. **I**T hath many long and broad Leaves lying upon the Ground, dented upon the Edges, a little soft or woolly, and of a hoary green Colour, among which riseth up sometimes sundry Stalks, but one very often, bearing such Leaves thereon from the Bottom to the Middle, from whence to the Top it is stered with large and long hollow reddish purple Flowers, a little more long and eminent at the lower Edge, with some white Spots within them, one above another, with small green Leaves at every one, but all of them turning their Heads one way, and hanging downwards having some Threads also in the Middle, from whence rise round Heads, pointed sharp at the Ends, wherein small brown Seed lieth. The Roots are so many small Fibres, and some greater Strings among them; the Flowers have no Scent, but the Leaves have a bitter hot Taste.

Place.] It groweth on dry sandy Grounds for the most Part, and as well on the higher as the lower Places under Hedge-Sides in almost every Country of this Land.

Time.] It seldom flowereth before *July*, and the Seed is ripe in *August*.

Government and Vertues.] The Plant is under the Dominion of *Venus*, being of a gentle cleansing Nature, and withal very friendly to Nature. The Herb is familiarly and frequently used by the *Italians*, to heal any fresh or green Wound, the Leaves being but bruised and bound thereon; and the Juyce thereof is also used in old Sores to cleanse, dry and heal them. The Decoction hereof made up with some Sugar or Honey, is a

Wounds cleansed,
Dry, Heal Obstru-
ctions of the Liver,
and Spleen, King's
Evil, Falling Sick-
ness, scabby Head.

available

available to cleanse and purge the Body both upwards and downwards, sometimes of tough Flegm and clammy Humours; and to open Obstructions of the Liver and Spleen. It hath been found by Experience to be available for the King's-Evil, the Herb bruised and applied, or an Ointment made with the Juyce thereof, and so used; and a Decoction of two Handfuls thereof, with four Ounces of Polypody in Ale, hath been found by late Experience to cure divers of the Falling Sicknes, that have been troubled with it above twenty Years.

My self am confident that an Ointment of it is one of the best Remedies for a scabby Head that is.

Fumitory.

Descript.] **O**UR common Fumitory is a tender sappy Herb, sending forth from one Square, a slender weak Stalk, and leaning downwards on all Sides, many Branches two or three Foot long, with finely cut and jagged Leaves of whitish, or rather bluish Sea green Colour: At the Tops of the Branches stand many small Flowers, as it were in a long Spike one above another, made like little Birds of a Reddish Purple Colour, with whitish Bellies; after which come small round Husks, containing small black Seeds. The Root is Yellow, small, and not very long, full of Juyce while it is green, but quickly perishes with the ripe Seed. In the Corfields in Cornwall, it beareth white Flowers.

Place.] It groweth in Cornfields almost every where, as well as in Gardens.

Time.] It flowereth in May for the most part, and the Seed ripeneth shortly after.

Government and Vertues.] Saturn owns the Herb, and presents it to the World as a Cure for his own Disease, and Strengthenner of the Parts of the Body he rules: If by my Astrological Judgment of Diseases, from the Decumbiture, you find Saturn Author of the Disease, or if by Direction from a Nativity you fear a Saturnine Disease approaching, you may by this Herb prevent it in the one, and cure it in the other, and therefore 'tis fit you keep a Syrup of it always by you. The Juyce or Syrup made thereof, or the Decoction made in Whey by it self, with some other Purging or opening Herbs and Roots to cause it to work the better
(it

(It self being but weak) is very effectual for the Liver and Spleen, opening the Obstructions thereof, and clarifying the Blood from saltish, cholerick, and adust Humours, which cause Leprosie, Scabs, Tettors and Itches, and such like breakings out of the Skin, and after the Purg- ing, doth strengthen all the inward Parts. It is also good against the yel- low Jaundice, and spendeth it by Urine which it procureth in abundance. The Powder of the dried Herb given for some time together, cureth Melancholy, but this Seed is strongest in Operation for all the former Diseases. The distilled Water of the Herb is also of good effect in the former Diseases, and conduceth much against the Plague and Pestilence, being taken with good Treacle. The distilled Water also, with a little Water and Honey of Roses, helpeth all the Sores of the Mouth or Throat, being gargled often therewith. The Juyce dropped into the Eyes, cleareth the Sight, and taketh away Redness, and other Defects in them, altho' it procure some Pain for the present, and cause Tears. *Dioscorides* saith, it hindreth any fresh springing of Hairs on the Eye-lids (after they be pulled away) if the Eye-lids be anointed with the Juyce hereof, with Gum *Arabic* dissolved therein. The Juyce of the Fumitory and Docks mingled with Vinegar, and the Places gently wained or wet therewith, cureth all Sorts of Scabs, Pimples, Bitches, Wheals, Pustles, which arise on the Face or Hands, or any other Part of the Body.

Liver, Spleen, Choler, Adust, Melancholy, Madnes, Forgetfulness, Jaundice yellow and black, Pestilence, sore Mouth and Throat, Eyes, Hairs, Scabs, Itch, Pimples, Wheals.

The Furz Bush.

IT is so well known, as well by this Name, as in some Countries by the Name of Gorz or Whins, that I shall not need to write any Description thereof, my Intent being to teach my Countrymen what they know not, rather than to tell them again of that which is generally known before.

Place.] They are known to grow on dry barren Heaths, and other waste, gravelly or sandy Grounds, in all Countries of this Land.

Time.] They also flower in Summer Months.

Government and Vertues.] Mars owns the Herb. They are hot

hot

*Obstructions, Liver,
Spleen, Yellow Jaun-
dice, Dysury, Gravel,
Stone.*

Stone ingendred in them. *Mars* doth all this by Sympathy.

hot and dry, and to open Obstructions of the Liver and Spleen. A Decoction made with the Flowers thereof hath been found effectual against the Jaundice, as also to provoke Urine, and cleanse the Kidneys from Gravel or

Garlick.

THE Offensiveness of the Breath of him that hath eaten Garlick, will lead you by the Nose to the Knowledge hereof, and (instead of a Description) direct you to the Place where it groweth in Gardens, which Kinds are the best and most Physical.

Government and Vertues.] Mars own this Herb. This was antiently accounted the poor Man's Treacle, it being a Remedy for all Diseases and Hurts, (except those which it self

*Urine, Terms provokes
mad Dogs, venomous
Beasts Worms Lethar-
gy, Flegm, Pestilence,
Aposthumes, mineral
Vapours, stinking Wa-
ters Henbane Hemlock
Wolfbane, Dropsy,
Cramps, Convulsions,
Falling-Sickness.*

breeds.) It provoketh Urine and Womens Courses, helpeth the biting of mad Dogs, and other venomous Creatures; killeth Worms in Children, cutteth and avoideth tough Flegm, purgeth the Head, helpeth the Lethargy, is a good Preservative against, and a Remedy for any Plague, Sore, or foul Ulcer; taketh away Spots and Blemishes in the Skin, easeth Pains in the Ears, ripeneth and breaketh Imposthumes or other Swellings. And for all those Diseases, the

Onions are as effectual. But the Garlick hath some more peculiar Vertues besides the former, *viz.* It hath a special Quality to discuss Inconveniencies coming by corrupt Agues or mineral Vapours, or by drinking corrupt and stinking Waters; as also by taking of Wolf-bane, Henbane, Hemlock, or other poisonous and dangerous Herbs. It is also held good in hydropick Diseases, the Jaundice, Falling-Sickness, Cramps, Convulsions, the Piles or Hæmorrhoids, or other cold Diseases.

Many Authors quote many Diseases this is good for; but conceal its Vices. Its heat is very vehement, and all vehement hot Things send up but ill-savour'd Vapours.